GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

EFS&T Department - Diversion of 24.204 Ha of forest land in Kadapa (18.377 Ha) & Anantapur (5.827 Ha) Divisions for construction of 400 KV Double Circuit Kadapa -Hindupur Power Transmission line, in favour of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited – Final (Stage-II) approval accorded.

ENVIRONEMNT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Section-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.19 **Dated.26.04.2022**

Read the following:-

1. From PCCF & HoFF, A.P, Lr.Rc.No.21357/2015/FCA-3, dt.04.11.2016.
2. State Govt.Lr.No.5617/Section-II/2017, EFS&T (Sec.II) dept., dt.15.12.2016.
3. From GoI, MoEF&CC, Regional Office, Chennai, Lr.F.No.4-APC027/2016-CHN/0249, dt.17.02.2017.
4. From PCCF & HoFF, A.P, Lr.Rc.No.EFS02-15035-11-2018-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, dt.16.10.2019.
5. State Govt.Lr.No.5617/Section-II/2017, EFS&T (Sec.II) dept., dt.07.02.2020.
6. From GoI, MoEF&CC, Regional Office, Chennai, Lr.F.No.4-APC027/2016-CHN/0332, dt.05.03.2020.
7. From PCCF & HoFF, A.P, Lr.Rc.No.EFS02-15035/11/2018-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, dt.07.11.2020.
8. State Govt.Lr.No.5617/Section-II/2017, EFS&T (Sec.II) dept., dt.08.12.2020.
9. From GoI, MoEF&CC, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada, Lr.F.No.4-APC027/2016-CHN/17, dt.03.02.2021.

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ORDER:

In the letter first read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, has submitted a proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion 24.204 Ha of forest land in Kadapa (18.377 Ha) & Anantapur (5.827 Ha) Divisions for construction of 400 KV Double Circuit Kadapa - Hindupur Power Transmission line, in favour of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited and requested to forward the same to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Regional Office, Chennai for according necessary approval in the matter.

2. In the letter 2nd read above, the proposal of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force was sent to Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office, Chennai for their approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

3. In the letter 3rd read above, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office, Chennai, have accorded in-principle (Stage-I) approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for the proposal, subject to compliance of certain conditions stipulated therein. Accordingly, in the letter 5th read above, State Government furnished compliance report on the Stage-I conditions stipulated by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office, Chennai and requested to accord Final (Stage-II) approval for the proposal.

4. In the letter 9th read above, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada, have accorded (Stage-II) approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 24.204 Ha of forest land in Kadapa (18.377 Ha) & Anantapur (5.827 Ha) Divisions for construction of 400 KV Double Circuit Kadapa -Hindupur Power Transmission line, in favour of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, subject to certain conditions stipulated therein.

5. After careful examination of the proposal, the Government hereby accord permission to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, for diversion of 24.204 Ha of forest land in Kadapa (18.377 Ha) & Anantapur (5.827 Ha) Divisions for construction of 400 KV Double Circuit Kadapa -Hindupur Power Transmission line, in favour of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, subject to the following conditions:-

i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;

ii. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS co-ordinates.

iii. The State Forest Department shall carry out Compensatory Afforestation (CA) over 51.81 ha of degraded forest in Compt.No. 693 of Palakonda and Vongimalla RF in Rayachoty Range of Kadapa Division from the amount which has already realized from the User Agency;

iv. Identified CA land and approved CA scheme shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;

v. Additional amount of Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency;

vi. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;

vii. Minimal disturbance should be ensured by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it will be the responsibility of the user agency to ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;

viii. State Forest Department shall raise and maintain sufficient numbers of red sanders saplings in the proposed CA land as proposed by the DFO, Kadapa Division;

ix. The State Forest Department shall translocate the trees, wherever feasible instead of felling at the cost of user agency;

x. The State Forest Department shall carry out plantation of dwarf species preferably medicinal plants in the Right of Way under the transmission line from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency;

xi. The User Agency shall bear the cost every year for special protection of the forest blocks through which the line is passing, as per the assessment of DFOs, Kadapa and Ananthapur Divisions;

xii. The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred or subleased to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;

xiii. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 24.204 ha and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;

xiv. The user agency at its cost shall provide bird deflectors, which are to be fixed on upper conductor of transmission line at suitable intervals to avoid bird hits;

xv. The User Agency shall comply with the guidelines for laying transmission lines through forest areas issued by Ministry vide letter No.7-25/2012-FC dated 05.05.2014 & 19.11.2014.

xvi. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.

xvii. The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less.

xviii. Any other conditions that the Central Government or Regional Officer (Central) of Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the user agency;

xix. The Progress of the Compensatory Afforestation as mentioned by the DFOs part -II of the proposals shall be monitored by the Circle Head and a copy of such

monitoring report shall be forwarded to the Integrated Regional Office to upload the same in the web portal;

xx. The user agency and the State Forest Department shall ensure compliance of all the court orders, provisions, rules, regulations and guidelines for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

xxi. In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the user agency is liable for penal action per the provisions made in rules / guidelines framed under, FCA, 1980.

6. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Andhra Pradesh, shall take further necessary action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)
NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
SPCIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force),
Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.

Copy to:

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central)
Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests,
Regional Office, 1st and 2nd Floors,
Handloom Export promotion Council Building
34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai – 600034.

The Inspector General of Forests (Central)
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada,
Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road,
Vijayawada-520010

The Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd., Construction Area Office, 400 KV Substation,
Chinnakampalli post, CK Dinne Mandal, Kadapa-516003.

SF/SC

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

N. Jagadeeswari
SECTION OFFICER